

## LIVE STOCK POPULATION

### Uncle Sam Wants to Know Number and Value of Them

#### ENUMERATORS ON THE RANGE

Live-Stock Census to be Taken by Them Instead of Special Agents as Census Authorities are Convinced They Can Gather Statistics More Expeditiously and Economically.

It has been decided by the Census Bureau authorities to have the census enumerators take the census of the number and value of the live stock on the ranges of the Western states as a part of the Thirteenth Decennial Census, beginning April 15 next.

The census authorities are convinced that the enumerators will be able to gather these statistics even more expeditiously, correctly, and economically than would be possible by special agents under existing conditions.

This decision was not reached until after Assistant Director William F. Willoughby had returned to the bureau from a series of conferences throughout the West, which were attended by all the census supervisors in the range states. He was accompanied by Chief Statisticians William C. Hunt and LeGrand Powers, of the population and agricultural divisions, respectively.

The supervisors in conference recommended that the work be placed in the hands of the enumerators. They assured the assistant director the enumerators can do it, in connection with the count of population and farms, with greater dispatch and economy than could special agents. They stated that there would be no difficulty whatever if the live-stock owners were made to appreciate the fact that in giving to the enumerators the information regarding their live-stock holdings there is absolutely no danger of it being communicated to county assessors or Forest Service officials. The supervisors stated that otherwise there might be hesitancy to furnish this data for fear it might mean extra taxation or larger grazing charges.

Mr. Willoughby pointed out to them that under the act of Congress providing for the present census every supervisor, supervisor's clerk, enumerator, interpreter, special agent, or other employee must make oath not to divulge any information contained in the schedules, lists, or statements obtained for or prepared by the Bureau of the Census to any person or persons. He informed them that the penalty clause in the law provides that a violation shall constitute a misdemeanor, to be punished by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or by imprisonment not to exceed two years, or both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court. The bureau authorities have always maintained the position that all information gathered by it was for its statistical use solely, and would not under any circumstances be imparted to any other branch of the Government.

#### FROST FIGHTING DEVICE DISCOVERED.

J. P. Bolton, the frost fighting expert of Fresno, Cal., who was instrumental in introducing the system of preventing frost damage to fruit in Colorado, has been a visitor in Walla Walla, during the past few days, says the Union. Mr. Bolton has been engaged in scientific work for the United States government for the 24 consecutive years ending September 30, 1909, and his investigations and experiments on frost fighting, covering a period of ten years, have resulted in the development and completion of a system of frost prevention combining simplicity, cheapness and effectiveness, placing the system at once within the reach of every grower on the American continent. Mr. Bolton has secured letters patent for these devices, and in speaking of them he says:

The object of the invention is

lar exhibits are to be maintained by the railroad company in Philadelphia and Boston. These places will direct a great deal of attention to the opportunities in Central Oregon for the settler.

Celebrating its quarter centennial as a state institution, the Oregon Agriculture College will hold the most elaborate function ever given at the institution at the close of the college year. President W. J. Kerr and the regents have taken steps to prepare a suitable observance of the achievements of the past quarter century and the faculty, student body and alumni will join in the demonstration. During the past 25 years, the institution has increased its holdings of land from 35 to 235 acres; the buildings from one to 20; faculty from nine members to 94, and the student body from 97 to approximately 1400. The great good to this state resulting from the work of the institution can hardly be over estimated.

In the annual report of Master Fish Warden McAllister, lately submitted, it is shown that the 1909 crop of salmon harvested in the waters of the Columbia River, Oregon side, amounted to 17,604,997 pounds, which is a decrease of \$58,549 pounds. The chief reason for the decrease is thought to be the shortening of the open season by the Legislature. Blueback salmon alone show a gain in the pack over 1909.

#### NOT THE FARMER.

A Dakota Farmer resents the charge that the farmers are responsible for the high costs of foodstuffs. He defended them in the senate the other day. He said a four-year-old steer for which the Dakota farmer got only \$70, brought, when served in Washington restaurant, \$2500. He said that a bushel of wheat for which farmers in his state receive 90 cents, brought as bread \$3 to \$4, and when served in restaurants \$37.50. A bushel of potatoes for which the farmer got 30 cents, he insisted brought 450 per cent when served in eating houses to the ultimate consumer.

The argument is at least unique. Its chief merit is that it shows this senator's heart to be right whether his figures are or not. It directs attention to that curious episode in which New York's swollen rich, sitting in their palaces, threatened to boycott farmers' products, a spectacle that would be nothing if not fantastic. To charge farmers with responsibility for the high prices is the unkindest cut of all. There is not a farmer in the world that fixes the price of a single article that he produces. He is forced to sell at the figure the collective buyers are willing to give. If over abundant, his potatoes, throughout all time, have gone for a pittance or rotted on his hands; if scarce he has sold them at a living price, or even at a fair profit. The same has been true of his wheat, his apples, and everything else that he has produced. He is unorganized and can no more fix the price on his products than a cow can jump over the moon.

He has never been able to combine and restrict the output as a means of inflating prices, as is done by trustdom. With cheerfulness and trustfulness, he sends his wares to market, and pockets the check that comes back, whatever it may be. Then he turns back to the soil, grows more products and sends them off for another check. This has been his routine through life, and he has, so far as artificial processes are concerned, no more been a factor in fixing prices than in fixing the length of the tail of Halley's comet. He gets no more for his beef now than he got then, but at the White House today they are paying 20 per cent and upwards more for steaks and roasts than was paid by Roosevelt and McKinley, which shows that it is elsewhere than on the farm that foodstuff prices have been inflated.—Journal.

FOR SALE—A five room cottage, four lots all fenced with two good wells, a windmill and other improvements. No rock. G. Hudspeth, Burns, Oregon.

## HOMESTEADER'S VIEWS

### Conservation Good Thing but Should Not Work Hardship on Settler

#### HIS LIFE IN A FOREST RESERVE

Process of Securing Homestead Long, Trying and Tiresome—Red Tape Discourages the Home Builders and He Thinks Blame Lies in Washington—Officials Don't Know Condition.

The following communication was sent to the Portland Journal from a homesteader over in Crook county:

I am a constant reader of your paper, and I have been reading with close attention accounts of the Ballinger and Pinchon controversy.

I filed on my homestead before this part of central Oregon was set aside as a reserve. What the government ever wanted of this reserve is hard to understand, for the most of the timbered land has all been taken up in claims, and there are a great many homesteads also.

Of course the people want the timber and water power cared for; but can not this be done without depriving honest homesteaders of their rights? There are hundreds of acres of open land here that have been burned over by forest fires and no timber grows on it. Good crops can be grown on this land without irrigation, for it is semi-arid land.

Why not let the honest homesteader have this land and make a home for himself and family? We hear the cry of crowded cities and the cry of poverty goes up, yet when a man comes in here looking for a piece of land to make a home for himself and family he is told, "Why, this is a reserve; no land in here," or he must go through so much red tape that he gets discouraged and leaves.

When trying to get a homestead in a forest reserve the first thing the settler must do is to make his selection of land, run out his lines, find his corner marks and get a description of the land. Then he must send in an application to the general land office of the district to have the land inspected. Then he waits perhaps two, or may be six months. Then one or more inspectors come and look over the land and send in their reports. If the land office decides in the man's favor he must wait until the land is listed and advertised in the nearest county paper. Then he has 60 days to file on the land. If he fails to do this he loses the game, or if he wins he must get a permit from the ranger to cut enough timber to fence and make other improvements; he must get a permit to burn brush to clear the land, and this only at certain times of the year. Indeed if I gave a record of all the permits that we have to ask for there would be no space for anything else. As far as I can see, the only thing the reserve has done is to keep the people out and to keep the country from being settled up. This would be one of the best dairying sections in the state if the government would open the land for entry.

The blame lies at Washington. For some of the officials have never lived in or near a forest reserve, some have never seen one. They send men out here to investigate, and no two men ever send in the same report. Yes, see to it that the timber is not wasted; but as for the big concerns that are taking up thousands of acres of land just holding them in a death grip and doing nothing, "let them make good" just the same as the homesteader has to. If the settler don't make good he must give up and quit. Why not the big land grabbers? Perhaps I have not made this statement very plain for I am only a HOMESTEADER.

New Mercantile Company For the Interior.

Under the firm name of J. W. Lee & Co., Mr. J. W. Lee of Vale will open a general merchandise

business in Alvord Valley, Harney county. While practically as far distant from the railroad at Vale as Burns, all supplies will be forwarded from this point just as early as the spring weather conditions will permit. Mr. Lee has selected as a business location a point at the famous Alvord ranch, and a complete line of general merchandise, vehicles and farm implements will be carried in stock. His post office address will be Alberson, Oregon.

Although comparatively little known or understood by Vale residents, the valley or basin is a very extensive and fertile district. The Alvord ranch originally owned and operated by the late John Devine, and for the past number of years under lease of the Pacific Live Stock Co., consists of approximately 15,000 acres. This property has recently been purchased by Mr. Frank Clert of North Yakima, Washington, and possession will be taken in April. The price reported paid by Mr. Clert for this property was \$300,000. This is one of the finest ranches in Eastern Oregon and probably the only one in the state having a herd of elk in its natural park. This ranch in addition to thousands of acres of grazing lands, contains several hundred acres of first class alfalfa hay. Its natural irrigation system, supplied by the snow waters from Steins Mountain ranges is one of the most efficient in Harney County. There are several other important ranches in this part of Harney county, among which may be mentioned the Juniper, Mann Lake, White Horse, Sorento, Huffman and Turner.

A great many artesian wells have been developed throughout this valley to a point where they are being used for irrigation purposes. It has been proven that this artesian belt extends the entire length of the Alvord basin and much is expected of its future development and use in an agricultural way.—Vale Enterprise.

#### State Auto Guide will be Published.

Every highway in Oregon that leads to scenic places or through attractive rural regions, will be measured and mapped by the Portland Automobile Club. The condition of roads, the exact distance that must be traveled, the attractions to be found and everything that will interest or guide the average tourist, visiting the state or prompt an Oregon citizen to go forth upon excursions into the wonderland of Oregon, will be published in book form, and be distributed so that it is available for all. This work has been done in California, and now the automobile driver in the state has a perfect guide to every scenic wonder, to the orange groves and vineyards. Thousands of automobiles with large parties journey over California, enhancing the value of rural regions, distributing much money, and revealing the marvels of the state.

As California has done, so will Oregon do, says E. Henry Wempe, president of the Automobile Club, and W. J. Clemens, chairman of the special committee on this phase of road marking. G. F. Beck, the road engineer, and his staff of assistants, who have done the California work, have been engaged for the same service here. They will arrive in the near future. Their work will consist of taking automobiles with speedometers, and passing over every route that has any value for travel purposes. Exact distances will be taken, a road map drawn to scale will be

made, cross and diverting routes will be correctly marked, and such information as the traveler needs will be inserted. When this party of engineers has covered the state from the gorges of the Columbia to the Modoc county line, they will publish the result in the most comprehensive travel directory ever issued in the Northwest. And it is understood that the same work is to be taken up in Washington later, along similar lines, giving in three sections a complete road map and travel directory for the Pacific States.

#### MARKET SLOW TO OPEN.

According to Miles Lee, the Harriman of the local Oregon wool business, the wool market will open here about March 18 and contracts will then be made for this season's clip.

He believes that prices may start off at 18 to 20 cents a pound, but there will probably be a desire not to advance much on each fleece as has been the former custom. This is due to the hard winter and the effect it has had on wool.

The scientific end of wool growing teaches that when a sheep is getting along nicely and the wool is growing well, and is then subjected to a severe storm, short feed and hardships the wool ceases to grow. Afterward when the sheep gets back on full feed and is doing well the wool grows again but there is a well defined streak where the wool ceased growing and where it begun anew. This streak in a clip depreciates its value materially. That is one reason why the advance money may be hard to obtain. Another reason is that sheep have weathered a hard winter leaving many in a weakened condition and the chances for loss even at this late date and from now until spring is very large.—Baker City Herald.

#### SOLD TO SYNDICATE.

One of the largest transactions on record in eastern Oregon ranch lands was consummated last week when the immense Crook county holdings of the Baldwin Sheep and Land company was sold to a syndicate of Portland capitalists for a figure said to be in the neighborhood of \$450,000, says the Portland Journal.

The purchasing syndicate is composed of L. B. Menefee, one of the wealthiest timber land dealers on the Pacific coast; James Elwood of Elwood & Snow Timber company, operating in Portland and Seattle; Guy M. Standifer, a Portland lumber manufacturer and timber land operator; E. J. Daly, an extensive operator in Portland realty, and N. P. Sorenson of the Sorenson Logging company of Astoria. The Baldwin company's holdings comprise 26,000 acres located on Hay creek and Trout creek, and occupying the best lands in the district south of Shanico and east of Madras. The purchase includes the improvements on the place, including a large general store and bank, the value of which is conservatively estimated at \$100,000.

A large portion of the Baldwin ranch comprises some of the finest alfalfa land in Eastern Oregon to the extent of several thousand acres. It is the intention of the new owners of the property to develop all of the alfalfa lands by conserving the waters in Hay creek and Trout creek for irrigation purposes. Practically all of the water in both those streams for their entire length is controlled by the Baldwin ranch. The Deschutes line of the Harriman system will run through the Baldwin property and arrangements have already been made for establishing one or more shipping points on the company's land.

Cottrill & Clemens have put in a first class saw mill 1 1/2 miles west of Cold Springs is near the valley with good road. In first class timber—picked trees from the government. Prepared to do custom work. See them about your government permit at once.

Better get a pair of thoroughbred pigs. Pork is worth raising now. Dr. Hibbard has some pure bred Berkshires for sale.

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NOTICE.  
All parties owing Lewis & Garrett, or Simon Lewis are hereby notified that all these accounts are in the hands of our attorney C. H. Leonard for collection and settlement. Persons indebted to us will please settle the same with Mr. Leonard at once.  
SIMON LEWIS  
J. T. GARRETT.

Williams Bros. saw mill at Cold Spring on the Canyon road is prepared to do custom work for those desiring to take advantage of their government permit. Also lumber for sale at \$12 per thousand. See them about custom prices.

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